

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 5-10, 13 and 15-20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 13 and 14 stand rejected. The Examiner objects to claims 4-7. Claims 1, 5 and 13 have been amended as set forth herein without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by way of the present amendments. Specifically, the amendment to claim 1 is supported by the specification at, for instance, page 22, line 11, and original claim 4. Amendment to claim 13 is similarly supported by the specification at, for instance, page 22, line 11, and original claim 4. Claim 5 is amended to correct a typographical error. Entry of these amendments and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1, as presented in the Reply of March 5, 2007, recites a typographical error in part (g) wherein the formula is recited as: $C = CO / (1 - B - A)$. The formula should read $C = CO / (1 - B/A)$, as disclosed in the specification at, for instance, page 22, line 11, and original claim 4. Claim 13 recites the same typographical error. This Supplemental Reply is submitted to correct these typographical errors. No new matter is introduced by way of these amendments.

Furthermore, claim 5 is amended to correct a grammatical error. That is, claim 5 is amended herein to recite, in part, "An immunoassay for assaying a soluble target antigen or antibody present in a whole blood sample, comprising the steps of." The word "in" is inserted into the preamble of claim 5 to provide a more grammatically correct preamble.

Otherwise, the entire contents of the Reply of March 5, 2007 is incorporated herein by reference in response to all outstanding rejections of the Office Action of December 5, 2007.

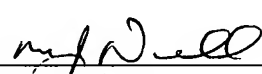
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Thomas J. Siepmann, Ph.D., Registration No 57,374, at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 30, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By  #36,623
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